

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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20 OCTOBER 1964
~~TOP SECRET~~

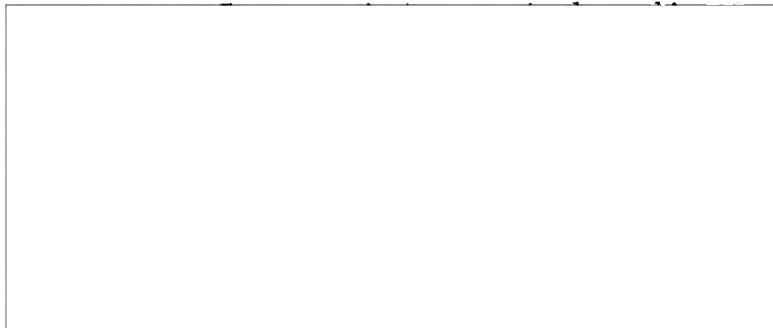
1. USSR

a. We have as yet no signs of major changes in policy.

b. Brezhnev used the ceremonies honoring the Voskhod cosmonauts as a forum for reassuring the Soviet people of the new regime's dedication to the policy lines worked out since Stalin's death.

c. At a later Kremlin reception, Brezhnev and Kosygin sought out Ambassador Kohler to express friendly sentiments.

d. Party meetings to explain the Kremlin shift are under way in the provinces and in Soviet missions abroad, and we may soon hear more of the approach taken for this inner group.



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(Cont'd)

f. At the Kremlin reception, Kohler, who has heard rumors that Defense Minister Malinovsky would be among the next to go, noted that Malinovsky seemed particularly glum.

g. However, this could be Malinovsky's reaction to the death of Deputy Defense Minister Biryuzov in a plane crash outside Belgrade yesterday. We think Biryuzov, also chief of the general staff, probably was being groomed for eventual promotion to Minister of Defense.

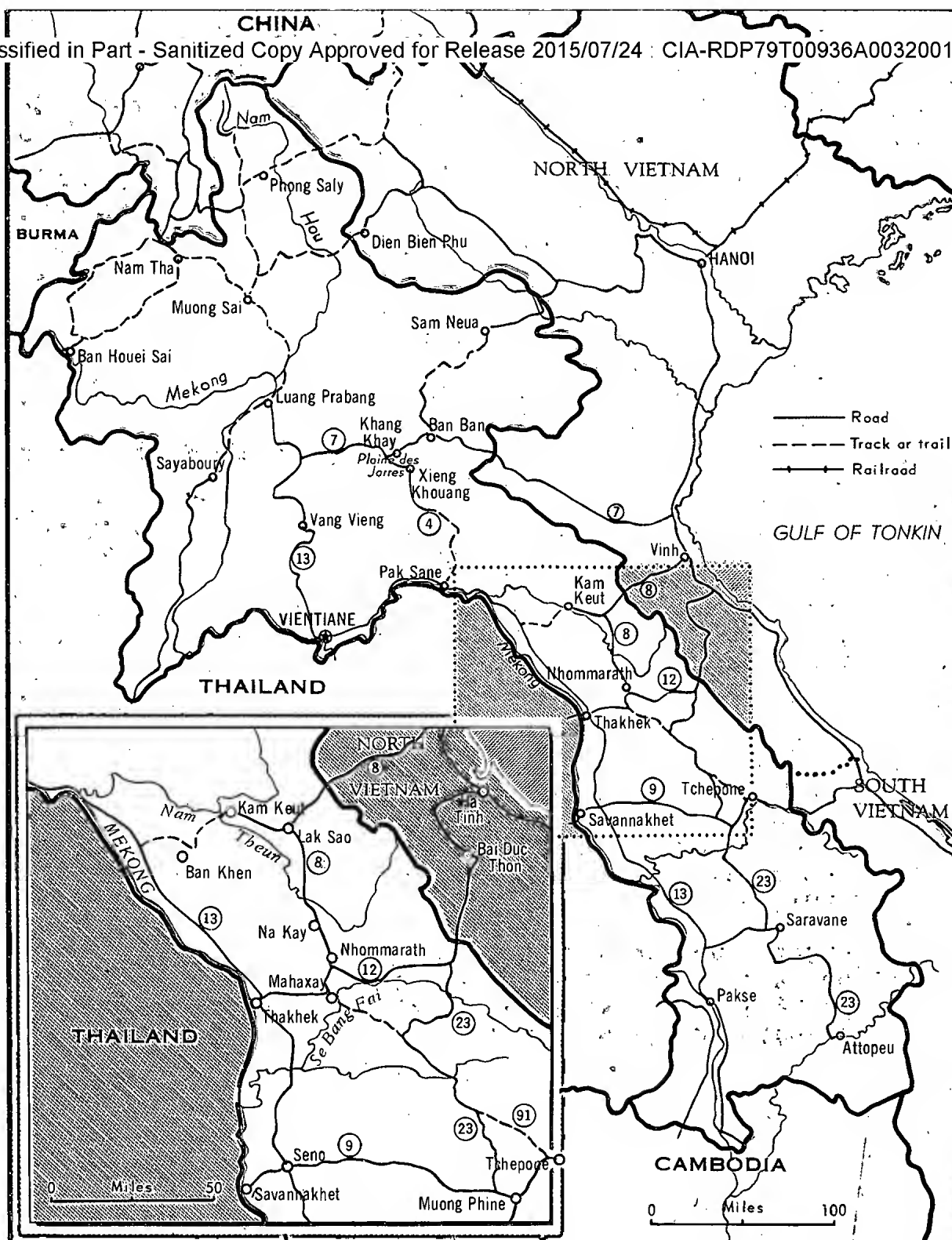
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2. South Vietnam

a. The search for a governmental formula continues.

b. Meanwhile, a new montagnard uprising, the possibility of which has been worrying Saigon, may have been forestalled for at least the time being. Khanh held a session over the weekend with delegates from 24 highland tribes, promising concessions meeting all their major demands.

c. While pleased with this, many montagnard leaders say they will wait and see if the promises are carried out.



3. Laos

a. The military situation is generally quiet, but uneasy, following last week's flareup in the Thakhek region of central Laos.

b. Government positions west of Ban Khen, where a unit was attacked on Thursday, have been reinforced.

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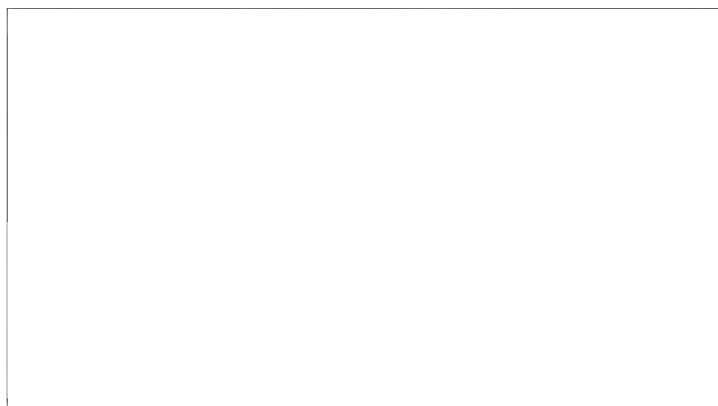
c. Government roadwatch teams have reported the movement of more than 200 enemy trucks toward the Plaine des Jarres between 13 and 16 October.

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4. Nationalist China

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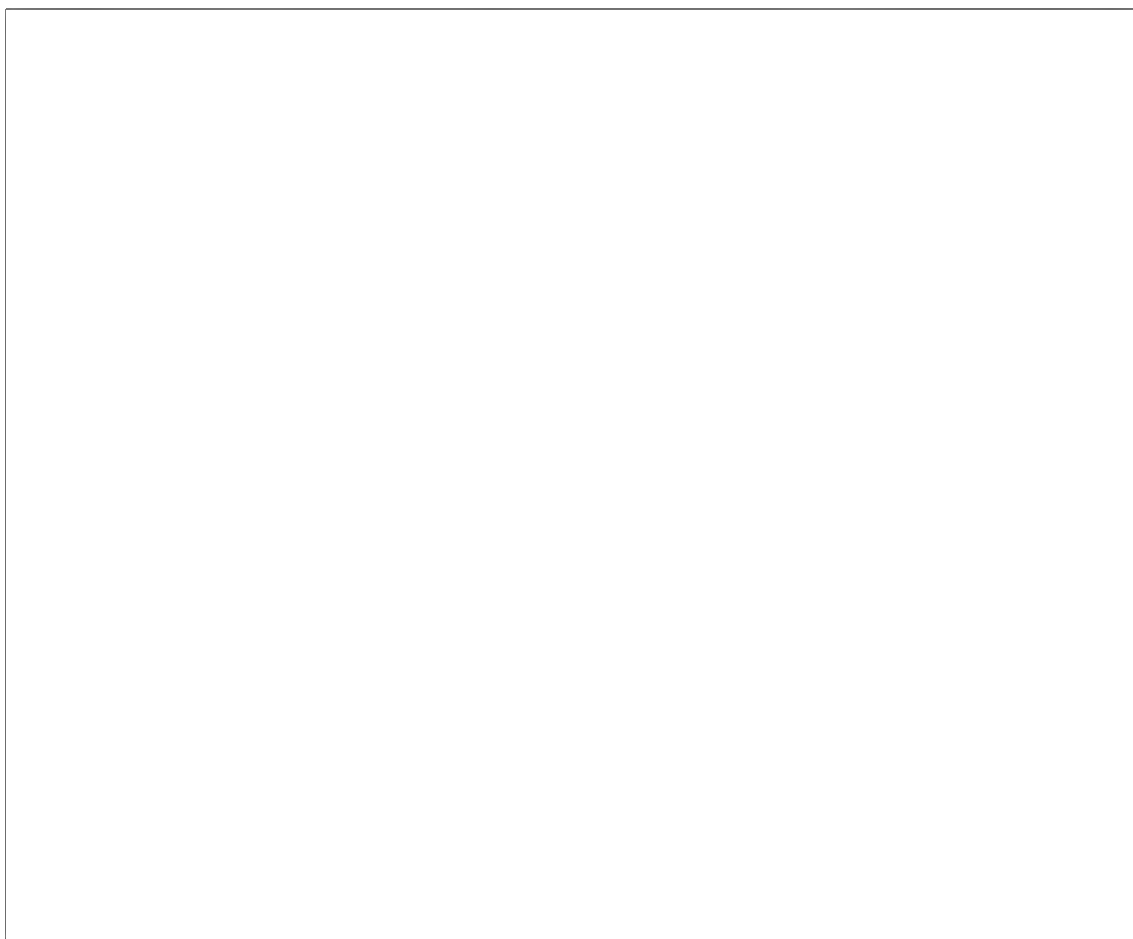


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NOTES

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B. Congo The seesaw in the Bukavu area of eastern Congo continues. Congolese troops prodded by Interior Minister Munongo moved back into Uvira--to the south--on Sunday.

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